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COR-0721
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30 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Projects CORONA/ARGON - NASA Briefing

1. A CORONA/ARGON security briefing of Dr. Hugh Dryden and Richard Horner of NASA and William M. Holaday, Director of Guided Missiles, Department of Defense, was accomplished by [redacted] in the presence of Dr. Bruce Billings and Mr. Adcock on 24 December 1959.
2. The requirement for the briefing arose due to an issue raised by a joint NASA/DOD Committee on use of space equipment as to why a reconnaissance satellite program was not being undertaken.
3. During the course of this briefing, Mr. Horner stated he was a little concerned about the man in space cover that has been attached to the CORONA effort. Mr. Horner fears that this publicity in connection with the Discovery series could possibly have an adverse effect on the NASA Mercury Project when it becomes operational.
4. Mr. Horner also took exception to the security statement that the strict concealment of a reconnaissance satellite program in 1959 and 1960 was the expressed desire on the part of President Eisenhower. Mr. Horner maintains that this security philosophy does not come from the President himself but instead is apparently a misinterpretation of his views by persons on his staff.
5. The subject of CHALICE and other DPD activities did not come up during this briefing.

SIGNED

JAMES A. CUMMINGS, JR.
Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

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